

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:
time-division multiplexing means for time-division
multiplexing data concerning a first video signal; and
adding means for adding beginning information to the
data which is time-division multiplexed by said time-
division multiplexing means, the beginning information
indicating the beginning of the data;

wherein a bit string obtained by decoding the beginning
information using a predetermined method differs by at least
two bits from two types of bit strings obtained by decoding,
using the predetermined method, two types of information
indicating the beginning of a plurality of pieces of data
concerning a second video signal, when the number of
corresponding bits is the maximum.

2. An information processing apparatus according to
Claim 1, wherein a difference between the number of bits
indicating 1 and the number of bits indicating 0 in the
beginning information is equal to a difference between the
number of bits indicating 1 and the number of bits
indicating 0, respectively, in the two types of information
indicating the beginning of said plurality of pieces of data
concerning the second video signal.

3. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the beginning information includes one of "0101111111110000" and the inverted pattern thereof or one of "1001111111110000" and the inverted pattern thereof.

4. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

the first video signal is a high-definition video signal; and

the second video signal is a standard-definition video signal.

5. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

said time-division multiplexing means performs time-division multiplexing of a plurality of pieces of data concerning the first video signal and an audio signal;

said adding means adds first beginning information to the head of a first piece of said plurality of pieces of data multiplexed by said time-division multiplexing means, the first beginning information indicating the beginning of the first piece of data;

said adding means adds second beginning information to the head of a second piece of said plurality of pieces of

data, the second beginning information indicating the beginning of the second piece of data; and

a first bit string and a second bit string, which are obtained by decoding the first beginning information and the second beginning information using the predetermined method, respectively, differ from each other by at least two bits, when the number of corresponding bits is the maximum.

6. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein:

the first beginning information is one of "0101111111110000" and the inverted pattern thereof; and
the second beginning information is one of "1001111111110000" and the inverted pattern thereof.

7. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein:

the first piece of data includes video data and audio data; and

the second piece of data includes sub-code data.

8. An information processing method comprising:
a time-division multiplexing step of time-division multiplexing data concerning a first video signal; and
an adding step of adding beginning information to the

data which is time-division multiplexed in said time-division multiplexing step, the beginning information indicating the beginning of the data;

wherein a bit string obtained by decoding the beginning information using a predetermined method differs by at least two bits from two types of bit strings obtained by decoding, using the predetermined method, two types of information indicating the beginning of a plurality of pieces of data concerning a second video signal, when the number of corresponding bits is the maximum.

9. A recording medium having a computer readable program recorded thereon, the program comprising:

a time-division multiplexing step of time-division multiplexing data concerning a first video signal; and

an adding step of adding beginning information to the data which is time-division multiplexed in said time-division multiplexing step, the beginning information indicating the beginning of the data;

wherein a bit string obtained by decoding the beginning information using a predetermined method differs by at least two bits from two types of bit strings obtained by decoding, using the predetermined method, two types of information indicating the beginning of a plurality of pieces of data concerning a second video signal, when the number of

corresponding bits is the maximum.